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VIETNAM

Approved For Release 2002/10/22 : CIA-RDP80B01676R000100050001-7

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23 March 1966

EYES ONLY

XR TS # 188804
F: DEFENSE

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Robert S. McNamara
Secretary of Defense

1. Herewith are three copies of the study you requested on probable reactions to a course of action set forth in a document, already in your hands, entitled "The Role of Air Strikes in Attaining United States Objectives in North Viet Nam." (), of March 1966. You will note that this study has been written by officers of this Agency, including members of the Board of National Estimates, but it has not gone through the coordination process which is customary in NIE's and SNIE's. In other words, we have adhered to your request that this estimate be an Agency product.

2. We have made every effort to give you here what you asked for. We have no doubt that you will have questions which this study does not answer. We would appreciate your sending us such queries upon receipt of which we will do our best to give you additional judgments.

3. The Director is out of town today, but he has authorized our forwarding the study to you.

Signed

Richard Helms
Acting Director

Attachments - 3

RHelms/ecd - 23/3/66

Distribution: Copy No. 1--addressee

2--ER

3--Mr. Kent

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